

August 25, 2010

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Dear Fellow Arkansan,

As students across Arkansas sharpen their pencils and prepare for a new school year, it's important that they receive the nutrition they need to succeed in school and life. Unfortunately, one out of every four Arkansas children is living in hunger and one of every five Arkansas children is struggling with obesity. We must put an end to these startling statistics.

Our youngest Arkansans agree. Olivia Parks, an 11-year-old budding artist from Little Rock, sent me the following cartoon, which illustrates the situation quite clearly.

[Click here to view the cartoon.](#)

Earlier this year [I introduced my Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act](#), which will change the face of childhood hunger and obesity in Arkansas and across the country. This completely paid-for bill makes the most historic investment in child nutrition programs since their inception and sets nutritional standards that ensure our schools are serving healthier meals. And, it will not add one penny to the national debt.

Before the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act can become law, however, it must first be passed by the U.S. House of Representatives. I urge my colleagues in Congress to take up this critical legislation, which will benefit generations of Arkansas children to come.

As always, please feel free to [contact me with your comments, suggestions and concerns](#). I look forward to hearing from you.

With Arkansas Pride,

✕

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